

FATHER'S EARLY DEATH OBSCURED ANCESTRY

Bob Dunham (11) (Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Micaiah 3, Micaiah 4, Joseph 5, Benjamin 6, Robert 7, Ephraim 8, James W. 9, Re~~x~~ James 10) discusses some of the interesting twists & turns his research took as he searched for more information about his great grandfather, which was made more difficult by the fact that Ephraim Fuller Dunham (1827-1889) was a posthumous child.

Mysteries of Ephraim Fuller DUNHAM (April 10, 1827 - Dec 5, 1889)

by Bob Dunham

Ephraim Fuller DUNHAM's family and descendant's have known little about him and his ancestors, and some of them have searched seriously for any information, but with little success. I had some good fortune in my hunting, and some lucky finds sent me in directions no other relative had searched -- the most productive of whom was my uncle, Dio Edgar DUNHAM of Detroit, Michigan. I discovered that the reason they knew little was because Ephraim was born some months after his father died, and that he grew up mostly in Avon Lake, OH with his stepfather and combined family.

It's funny the trails that lead you to find more genealogical information: I found through Ephraim Fuller DUNHAM's marriage certificate in Winnebago County, WI, that he had been born in Farmington, Trumbull County, OH. There I could find very little except intestate probate and guardianship data about his father Robert, and Robert & Henrietta's children (names were Mary Ann and Wells C, and of course, Ephraim - born in that order), a few deeds, and the widow's second marriage (no other births, deaths, marriages), to Emmons G FULLER (no known relationship, not found in any FULLER or EMMONS genealogy). But a court document re guardianship for Ephraim's brother, Wells C listed him as being "of Avon, Lorain County, OH." There I found these deeds (and again no births, deaths, marriages and no court documents). The first two deeds suggested I should look in Geauga County, OH.

In Geauga County, I not only found that Emmons and Henrietta went there in 1832 and left in 1835 for Avon (again, no births, deaths, marriages for this family), but Henrietta and her first husband had bought and sold property there from 1822 (the year after their marriage) and sold it in 1825 (the year they moved to West Farmington, Trumbull County, OH).

As an aside, I thought perhaps Robert F Dunham's middle name might have been FULLER, since one of his sons (Ephraim) and a grandson (Alton Fuller DUNHAM) had that as a middle name; and his children's guardian was Epaphroditus FULLER -- however, when checking the FULLER volumes (found at the WI State Historical Society's Library) by William Hyslop FULLER (published beginning about 1908), I found that Henrietta Maria was a FULLER and 7th generation Mayflower descendant of Edward FULLER, and that she had married Robert F DUNHAM at Wilbraham, MA in 1821, where both of them had grown up. Also, Epaphroditus was her younger brother. Later, when checking an LDS Family History Center library, I discovered that Robert's middle name was Ferrel, and found his parents' names; also that Porter DUNHAM "of Chattaqua, New York," who sold Robert some property in Geauga County, was Robert's younger brother, and that Porter had married an Ann YORK there. Robert Farrell (note different spellings) Dunham is listed in Isaac Watson Dunham's Dunham Genealogy as a 7th generation descendant of Deacon John Dunham (who did not come over on the Mayflower, as I.W.D. so wistfully tried to prove). (He arrived at Plymouth, MA ca 1828-33, according to several better authorities.)

The mysteries still remaining are, what happened to sister Mary Ann DUNHAM and brother Wells C DUNHAM? They are listed by count in the 1840 Ohio Census for Avon Lake, and appear to have two younger stepbrothers and sisters. But, when I searched Lorain County records, I found no marriages, births or deaths of them or their parents or siblings. In desperation, I even checked ancient health and education records, to no avail. I checked court documents next (none), then deeds, and found that Henrietta and second husband Emmons G FULLER had many property transactions between 1835 and 1849. Also, since Emmons name no longer appeared after December 19, 1838, he probably died in the interim. The last deed was in March 7, 1849 and was probably a property transfer to an Edwin FULLER "of Cleveland," who may or may not have been Henrietta's son by her second marriage. A deed of November 13, 1880, upon Edwin's death, lists his heirs:

(continued on page 2)

ERROR, POINTED OUT BY BILL WOOD

MYSTERY OF EPHRAIM DUNHAM (cont'd from page 1)

Maria FULLER	wife of Edwin, deceased	Avon, Oh
Charles W & Mary J FULLER	(son of Edwin?)	Elyria, OH
Carlton A & Kate FULLER	(son of Edwin?)	Washington Courthouse, OH
Edwin & Elizabeth FULLER	(son of Edwin?)	Cleveland, OH
Frank & Mercy Ann FORD	(dau of Edwin?)	Cleveland, OH

The last entry is interesting -- can that be Mary Ann DUNHAM? It's possible -- she was only a few years older than her brother Ephraim, and he didn't die until 1889.

Another mystery is, why did Ephraim leave Avon for Winnebago County, Wisconsin, and when? He is listed by count in the Avon 1840 Census (age 13), but not in the 1850 Census, and married in Winnebago County in 1854 at age 27. He served less than one year in the Wisconsin contingent in the Civil War, in 1865 and returned to Oshkosh, WI. The 1840 Avon census also lists Ephraim's brother and sister, and a younger brother and sister, and lists two older females in the household (were the last two farm help? Or, could they have been other relatives -- perhaps of the stepfather?), and the mother (Henrietta) and father (Emmons Fuller).

The last mystery is, did he have any half-brothers and -sisters? And, if so, what were there names, and where did they go? The deed listed above may give some answers, but the next search will probably include a trip to Cleveland and Washington Courthouse. Wouldn't it be great to find some descendants living, and find that they had wondered about their family. also? And maybe, then I'll find out where

Emmons G FULLER comes from. Of possible interest to them -- Ephraim has two very elderly granddaughters living still -- one in Long Beach, CA, and the other in Edmonds, OR.

Chicago Tribune, Friday, June 10, 1994 Section 2 11

Obituaries

Museum founder Jane Dunham

By Kenan Heise
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Jane Dunham, 88, a former antique dealer, was the founder and director of the Dunham-Hunt Museum in St. Charles.

A resident of Geneva, she died Tuesday in Delnor-Community Hospital in Geneva.

The Dunham-Hunt Museum, which is open to the public, houses treasures, artifacts and household goods from the Hunt and Dunham families. The Hunts had lived in the home for several generations. The Dunhams lived in the Dunham Castle, built by her grandfather, Mark, at Army Trail and Dunham Roads in Wayne.

The most prominent feature of the museum is the Dunham Room, in which Miss Dunham replicated a room from the castle.

Miss Dunham was a graduate of Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pa. She taught mathematics during World War II at Washington University in St. Louis. She also had owned antiques shops in



Jane Dunham

Chicago and Geneva.

For many years, Miss Dunham did floral arrangements for prominent hotels in Chicago.

"She was a sparkling person," Helen Berans, a friend, said. "Once you met her, you never forgot Jane Dunham. She was an outspoken person with a great sense of humor. She loved to sit in her big chair and talk to schoolchildren about the castle in which she had grown up."

She has no immediate survivors. Plans for a memorial service are pending.

JACKIE GERTH, Glenview, IL, thoughtfully sent DD this recent obituary from the CHICAGO TRIBUNE about Jane Dunham (1906-1994)(10) (Deacon John 1, John 2, John 3, Elisha 4, Elisha 5, Elisha 6, Solomon 7, Mark 8, Wirth W. 9). A photograph of Jane & a picture of the Dunham Castle built by her grandfather in St. Charles, IL, were published in DD previously.

DUNHAM DISPATCH
Mrs. Phyllis S. Kitson, Ed.
711 Kensington Avenue
Flint, Michigan 48503



A MOST INTERESTING picture of the 1906 Dunham reunion (probably held in W. Monroe, NY) was shared by Ann Eldred, Verona, NY. Unfortunately none of the attendees is identified, but it is probable that the people were all descendants of Ezekiel Dunham (1793-1883)(6)(Deacon John 1, Joseph 2, Nathaniel 3, Isaac 4, Calvin 5) & their spouses. What was the setting for this picture?... A railroad station? .. A barn? It appears that a rug has been spread on the ground for some of the younger generation to sit on. Can't tell for certain how many were in the picture, but it was a BIG gang!

CHANGES TO COME?

The growth of DD, possibly reflecting the growth of the Dunham family itself, has been phenomenal -- so much so that it is difficult to make enough copies for circulation each month. The time when changes must take place is fast approaching, & we'll outline what those changes might be: 1/ We could publish issues with fewer pages. (This isn't a good solution, because it is hard to cover all the branches in the space currently allotted. 2/ We could publish only every other month, as we did in the beginning. (We don't like this one either; An every-other-month publication schedule somehow loses momentum.) 3/ We could request that everyone who does NOT want the newsletter write ONCE to let us know. (This request is hereby being made, since we certainly don't want to add to the "junk mail" problem.) 4/ We could initiate a charge for DD. (This is about the LAST thing we'd want to do, as it would turn the newsletter into a business, with all the attendant hassle. Also, we could lose out on a lot of good material that way.) 5/ We could come out blatantly & ask for financial contributions. What we definitely do NOT want to do is to clip DD's wings in any way, because the newsletter is experiencing the kind of success we long dreamed about, & the information & material is coming in at a great rate. That is a boat we surely don't want to rock -- yet this very same satisfying growth is becoming a problem at the copiers & at the post office.

QUERIES

ELIZABETH E. BROWN, 9875 W. Progress Place, Littleton, CO 80123-2177, has the following questions regarding her great great grandfather, HARTWELL DUNHAM (1822-1898) (seen at right) & his family. (Incidentally, DD is delighted to have an ILLUSTRATED query!)



Hartwell Dunham's death certificate gives David Dunham as his father and Purson as his mother. It is not known if the David Dunham buried in Gun Plains, Allegan County, Michigan with his wife Sarah is Hartwell's father or if Sarah is Sarah Purson or a wife other than Hartwell's mother. Next to their graves are those of Silas Dunham and his "relic." They are the only Dunhams with marked graves in the Woodside Cemetery in Gun Plains. The town clerk advised that the cemetery records were lost in a fire. Family tradition said that Hartwell Dunham (1822-1898) and Seneca Dunham (1807-1887) were half-brothers. Although that does not seem likely, it is probable that they were related in some way, as Hartwell's daughter, Amelia, and Seneca's son, Albert Seneca, who married, were said to be cousins. I am trying to find that relationship. It is known that Seneca's father, Edward Dunham (1753-1844), had two wives and that a Silas Dunham was a son by the first wife, name unknown. Seneca was a son by the second wife, Mary Ridley, widow of Jacob Daniels (or Dannals). The burial in adjacent graves of David Dunham (1775-1865) and Silas Dunham (1781-1839) suggests a family relationship. Were they brothers, sons of Edward Dunham by his first wife? Were the half-brothers Hartwell's father, David, and Seneca? Albert and Amelia would then be cousins.

WANTED:

Photos of any Dunham or Dunham descendant in military uniform. DD is planning a special military issue for the near future & would be interested in including any photographs readers might be able to lend.

While the Dunham family was widely represented in the American Revolution, we can't hope for pictures from that era, but Civil War photos & pictures from more recent periods would be much appreciated!

Q U E R Y

DUNHAM, Daniel ^{3. Jonathan 2. John 1} b. ca 1677 in Middleboro or Edgartown, MA; d. ca 1741 in Edgartown/Chilmark, Dukes Co, MA. He was alleged to have married Rebecca **NORTON**, (b. ca 1684; d. aft. 1727 in East Hampton, MA; a typescript on file states she d. 3 Feb 1783, age 99 yr, 8 mo). This marriage allegedly occurred ca 1701 in Edgartown, Dukes Co, MA. If so, her ancestry was unknown. Banks, in **History of Martha's Vineyard, MA Vol I, II & III** thoroughly covers this DUNHAM group, and also the NORTON family, early settlers of the area. He states that this marriage is extremely doubtful, and NO records are found to support the DUNHAM-NORTON alliance. No other possible marriages have turned up to suggest other wives (although the unreliable Ancestry File states he m 2] -).

The **only** clues at this time involve the naming patterns of some of his 12 children (he didn't name any of the males John, or Jonathan, an anomaly in the DUNHAM patterns). The **first-time used names** are:

#1	Matilda	(1703-1726),	married Joseph VINCENT in 1726
#2	Zephaniah	(c. 1705 -),	married Sarah SMITH 20 Jul 1740 or 6 Sep 1733, dsp
#10	Dinah	(c. 1721 -)	nfr

Research through Torrey's **New England Marriages prior to 1700** and **Supplement** by Sanborn reveal that Matilda was a name not in use during the pre-1700 period - for any New England family.

Zephaniah appears as a BUTLER family name, pre 1700, & Butler was definitely a documented Martha's Vineyard group, arriving on the Hercules of Sandwich in 1637, residing in Dorchester, then to MV by 1651.

Dinah appears as a family name with the marriage of MV settler, Tristram Coffin to Dionis/Dinah Stevens, who married in England ca 1629, with records in Salisbury, Newbury and Nantucket.

Following these families, I still cannot connect **any** known female of the correct time-period, who does not have a recorded known marriage - and **none** of them married Daniel DUNHAM.

Besides the above (3) children, they had 9 more, all born in (Edgartown) Dukes Co, MA:

# 3	Rebecca	(1707 - 1774)	m. Benjamin PEASE
#4	Silas	(1710 (Chr. 1723) - aft 1781)	m1) Deborah -; m2) Sarah Johnson in 1781
#5	Sarah	(c 1710 - 1768)	m. David PEASE
#6	Daniel	(1711 - 1797)	m. Sarah HUXFORD in 1739; to Conway, Hampshire (now Franklin) Co, MA c 1774.
#7	Persis	(c 1713 (Chr. 1722) -)	m. William DUNHAM in 1739
#8	Mary	(c 1715 (Chr 1722) - 1770)	m1) David PARMALEE m2) Jacob CURTIS
# 9	Samuel	(c 1719 (Chr 1722) -)	m. Elizabeth -; d. at Sharon or Lebanon, CT
#11	Eleazer	(Chr 1722 - bef 1753)	m. Hannah CLEMENTS
#12	Jacob	(Chr 1726 - c 1777)	m. Elizabeth PETTEE; d. perhaps in Lebanon, CT ; "killed in Rev. War"

Does anyone have information tucked away in their "DUNHAM's, unknown" files ?

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